

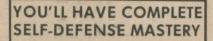
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## Westing YEARBOOK FOR 1974

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WRESTLING YEARBOOK is part of the Victory Sports Series, which is published 52 times per year and includes INSIDE WRESTLING, THE WRESTLER, WRESTLING ANNUAL, WRESTLING YEARBOOK, WORLD BOXING, INTERNATIONAL BOXING, BOXING ANNUAL and BIG BOOK OF BOXING. Published by G.C. LONDON PUBLISHING CORPORATION, Box 58, Rockville Centre, New York 11571. Stanley Weston President. 75° per copy. Subscription rates for each series are published in every issue. All rights reserved. Printed in Canada.

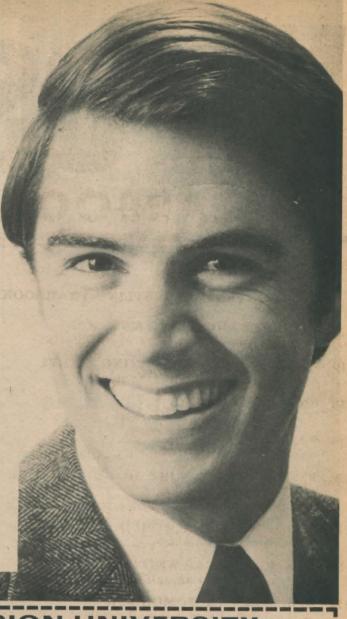
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## OFFIGIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

## WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

**CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO** 

1—PEDRO MORALES

2—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW

3-NIKOLI VOLKOFF

4—DON LEO JONATHAN

5—STAN STASIAK

6-LARRY HENNIG

7—GORILLA MONSOON

8—TONY GAREA

9-MIKE MCCORD

10—JOSE GONZALES

## AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

**CHAMPION: VERNE GAGNE** 

1—BILLY ROBINSON

2—BILLY GRAHAM

3—CRUSHER

4—RAY STEVENS

5-NICK BOCKWINKLE

6—IVAN KOLOFF

7—RED BASTIEN

8—LARRY HEINIMI

9—GREG GAGNE

10—CHRIS TAYLOR

## **MIDGETS**

1—LORD LITTLEBROOK

2—SKY LOW LOW

3—LITTLE BEAVER

4—LITTLE BRUISER

5—LITTLE BRUTUS

**6—FRENCHY LAMONT** 

7—FARMER IEROME

8—LITTLE LOUIE

9—TOM POUCE

10—HAITI KID



CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW



BETTY NICCOLI

## NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: IACK BRISCO

1—TERRY FUNK

2-DORY FUNK IR.

3—THE SHEIK

4—JOHN TOLOS

5—MOONDOG MAYNE

6—TIM WOODS

7—HARLEY RACE

8—GENE KINISKI

9—BUDDY COLT

10—PAUL IONES

## TAG TEAMS

1—KURT VON HESS & KARL VON SHOTZ

2—RAY STEVENS & NICK BOCKWINKLE

3—BRUISER & BRUNO SAMMARTINO

4—THE FABULOUS KANGAROOS

5-LORD AL HAYS & ROGER KIRBY

6—TONY GAREA & DEAN HO

7—RAUL MATA & VICTOR RIVERA

8-GOLIATH & BLACK GORDMAN

9—THE LEDUC BROTHERS

10—KEN PATERA & CHRIS TAYLOR

## WOMEN

**CHAMPION: FABULOUS MOOLAH** 

1—VICKI WILLIAMS

2-VIVIAN VACHON

3-MARIA LAVERNE

4—BETTY NICCOLI

5-NATASHA

6-SUE GREEN

7—LILY THOMAS

8—DONNA CHRISTENELLO

9—JOYCE GRABLE

10-KAY NOBLE



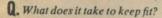
**JOHN TOLOS** 



RAY STEVENS

## AN EXPERT EXPLAINS WHY IT'S NOW EASIER THAN EVER TO KEEP FIT

More men everyday are becoming aware of the importance of keeping their bodies fit. Once having decided to do something about it, however, they find themselves confronted with a bewildering array of health plans, training techniques and equipment. Which one to choose? We decided to ask an expert: Paul Graham, Mr. Universe 1972 and leading fitness authority.



A. Physical fitness is primarily a matter of getting enough of the right type of exercise.

Q. Don't we get enough exercise in our daily lives?

A. Unless you're a professional athlete or a manual laborer, the answer is probably no.

Q. Won't sports do the job?

A. Of course they will, provided you engage in a "complete" sport like swimming, jogging, squash, etc. often enough and for a long enough period. An hour of training a day should put any man in top shape.

Q. Isn't there an easier way?

A. Yes. There is one outstandingly effective training method that is also fast and easy—the one I use and recommend—the new Bullworker system.

Q. What's that?

A. The Bullworker is a revolutionary new exerciser based on Isometrics, the science that increases muscular strength up to three times faster than conventional methods.

Q. How long does Bullworker training take?

A. The complete training program, covering all the major muscle groups: arms, shoulders, chest, abdominals, back and legs, requires just 5 minutes a day.

Q. But it's hard work, isn't it?

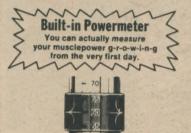
A Absolutely not. Bullworker training is progressive. You

start out using only 60% of your strength so there's no danger of muscle strain. That's why I recommend it particularly to men who haven't been exercising regularly.

Paul Graham, Mr. Universe 1972,

shows how Bullworker builds rippling biceps in just 7

seconds a day.



Q. How long before I can see results?

A. With the very first workout you'll feel your muscles coming back to life. Then day by day you'll see your strength growing on the built-in Powermeter. After two weeks you should be able to see a change in your body in a mirror and

measure your improvement with a tape measure.

Q. Will Bullworker training work even for bodies that are weak and skinny or fat and flabby?

A. Definitely. It's been proven by more than a million men of every shape and size all over the world.

Q. Is there an age limit?

A. Generally speaking, men between 15 and 65 in good general health can expect to benefit from fitness and strength building training.

Q. How can I find out more about Bullworker training and maybe try it myself?

A. I understand the United States distributor is offering new users the right to try the Bullworker free for two weeks. I suggest you contact him.

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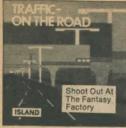




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NS At

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Yes, it's true!—if you join right now, you may have any 12 of these records or tapes for only \$1.97! Just mail the handy application, together with your check or money order for \$1.97 as payment (be sure to indicate whether you want cartridges, cassettes, reel tapes or records). In exchange. You agree to buy 9 more selections (at regular Club

prices) In the coming two years—you may cancel membership any time after doing so.

Your own charge account will be opened upon enrollment...the selections you order as a member will be mailed and billed at regular Club prices: cartridges and cassettes, \$6.98; reel tapes, \$7.98; records, \$4.98 or \$5.98...plus a processing and postage charge. Occasional angular applications are the account with the part of the processing and postage charge. casional special selections may be somewhat higher.)

You may accept or reject selections as follows: every four weeks (13 times a year) you will receive a new copy of the Club's music magazine, which describes the Selection of the Month for each musical interest ...plus hundreds of alternate selections from every field of music. In addition, about six times a year we will offer some special selections (usually at a discount off regular Club prices). A response card will be enclosed with each magazine.

- ...If you do not want any selection offered mail the response card by the date specified
- ... If you want only the Selection of the Month for your musical interest, you need do nothing—it will be shipped to you automatically
- ... if you want any of the other selections offered just order them on the response card and mail it by the date specified

You will always have at least 10 days in which to make a decision. If for any reason you do not have 10 days in which to decide, you may return the regular selection at our expense and you will receive full credit for it.

You'll be eligible for our bonus plan upon completing your enrollment agreement—a plan which enables you to save at least 33% on all your future purchases.



NOTE: All applications are sub-ject to approval and Columbia House reserves the right to reject any application.

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	box only	
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(Please Print)	First Name	Initial	Last Name
Address			
City			
State		Zip Code.	

CANADIANS: mail application to U.S.A. address. Your membership will be serviced from Canada. Enrollment plan may differ. Prices slightly higher. P49/87

Do You Have A Telephone? (Check one) TYES..... NO

APO, FPO addressees: write for special offer

## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING, BABY

By Bill Apter

OONDOG MAYNE, the man who chews razor blades and eats live goldfish, stunned the entire wrestling scene by pulverizing Pat Patterson to win a version of the United States heavyweight title.

"I'm the first guy to defeat Patterson in years," Moondog boasted. "The title is mine now and it'll remain mine. Whoever wants that title'll am I proud. I tell you what. I'd like have to kill me first before I give it to wrestle Gordman. Let him put his

Patterson claims he was fouled by Mayne and is demanding a quick rematch.

Over in Japan, Johnny Powers lost the National Wrestling Federation heavyweight title to Antonio Inoki.

"I will defend the title all over the world," Inoki said. "Mr. Powers put up a great battle and I will grant him a rematch whenever he wants it. He is a fine wrestler."

"I've got to get that title back," a determined Johnny Powers stressed. Not in Japan."

Two giants battle royals had sur- match for them." prise winners. In Los Angeles Black Gordman ousted such greats as Andre

Rivera (with use of a chair) to win. Then, in San Francisco, popular Peter Maivia won the top prize of \$12,000.

"I am a great wrestler," Gordman stressed "I knew I could do it all the time."

"What a shock!" Maivia said. "I never really thought I'd win. Man. prize money up against mine and winner take all."

Gordman said, "I'm too busy for such a ridiculous match." Sounds like someone's chickening out, Gordman!

The Valiant Brothers, "Handsome" Jim and "Luscious" John, along with their manager, "Pretty Boy" Bobby Heenan, continue to spread a reign of terror all along the W.W.A. areas.

"Never," proclaimed Heenan, "Never have I had such a devestating and beautiful combination. I flatly predict the Valiant Brothers will win "The title belongs here, in America. every tag team title in the sport. Mark my words. No team is a decent

Did Archie "Stomper" Gouldie try to blind himself with pepper, yup, The Giant, John Tolos and Victor we said pepper, in his match against

Archie "Stomper" Gouldie claims Abdullah The Butcher (above) tried to blind him with pepper!

Abdullah The Butcher? That's what Abdullah and his spokesman Tiger Tomasso are saying.

"Gouldie said Abdullah threw pepper in his eyes," Tomasso said. "That's bull. Every red-blooded fan in his right mind realizes Abdullah wouldn't do such a terrible thing. That Gouldie threw the pepper in his own eyes to make things look bad for Ab-

"It's a frameup," Gouldie swears. "I can't believe Tomasso would conjure up such a story. It's ridiculous. I hope my fans won't believe it."

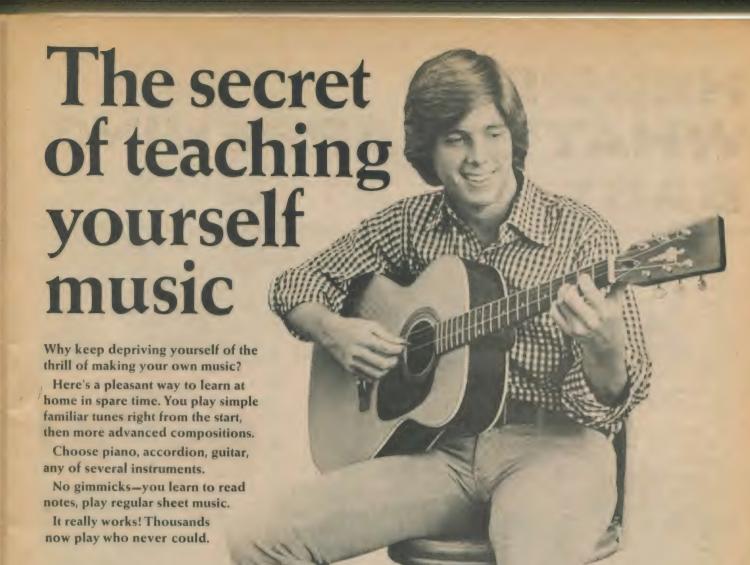
Who is Mr. X? That's the question W.W.W.F. wrestlers are trying to answer. The masked Mr. X is one of the most vicious wrestlers ever seen in the area and a definite threat to the title.

"I think I know who it is," noted Chief Strongbow, "but I won't say yet. No, I'll unmask him in front of everyone and prove my hunch."

(Continued on page 46)



Bobby Heenan's newest duo of terror is composed of 'Handsome" Jim Valiant and his brother John. Jim (right of photo) says, "My brother and I will win every tag team title in the world.' Their manager. Heenan, agrees.



It may seem odd at first — the idea of teaching yourself music. You might think you need a private teacher at \$4 to \$10 per hour to stand beside you and explain everything you should do—and to tell you when you've made a mistake.

But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people just like you have taught themselves to play by using the lessons we give by mail. And you can too.

With our lessons, you learn to play the right way — by note from regular sheet music. Without any gadgetry or gimmickry. And all it costs you is just pennies a day.

You don't need any previous musical training. Our lessons start you off "from scratch" with clear word-and-picture instructions. A lot of the songs you practice first are simple tunes you've heard many times. And since you already know how these tunes are supposed to sound, you can tell immediately when you've "got them right."

Then you go on to more advanced pieces. By this time you can tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play whatever kind of music you like. Folk. Popular. Classical. Show and dance tunes. Hymns.

You learn in your spare time, in the privacy and comfort of your own home. There's no one standing over you to make you nervous. And because you teach yourself, you can set your own pace. You're free to spend as much time mastering any lesson as you wish

It's really a marvelous way to learn. As recent graduate Mrs. Norman Johanson wrote us, "My daughter has taken lessons for 8 years from a private teacher, and now she asks me questions about some of her lessons. How very proud I feel when she says to friends, 'You've just got to hear my Mom play!'"

Others also enjoy her playing, Mrs. Johanson reports. She

plays for herself to relax after a trying day, and for her husband when he's tired. She also plays for friends when she goes to parties. "In a sentence," she says, "it's the most soul-satisfying thing that has ever happened to me."

If you've ever dreamed of being able to play the piano, the guitar, or some other instrument, why not learn more about our convenient, economical way to learn? Send for our free booklet Be Your Own Music Teacher. With it we'll include a free Piano "Note-Finder." There's no obligation. Just mail the coupon to the U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, A Home Study School Since 1898, 417 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605

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Mr. Mrs	RINT NAME	saxophone	Age
Mr. Mrs. Miss		saxophone	Age
Mr. Mrs.		saxopnone	☐ Accordie  —Age

## Sincerely Yours...

## PLEASED WITH PUZZLE

The puzzle in WRESTLING AN-NUAL #8 was almost as much fun as going to a match! My whole family spent hours finding each name. We still can't find Tim Woods but we're going to keep trying, you can bet.

I hope there will be a puzzle in every annual from now on. They must be terribly difficult to do but believe me, it's worth it. I could do a whole book of them.

Thanks again for more fun than I've had in years!

JOEL MILLNER Hibbing, Minn.

## WRESTLERS ARE TOUGHER

In a recent article you ask if wrestlers are tougher than boxers. The



answer has to be ves.

Look at a boxer after a bloody match and look at a wrestler. A wrestler can be covered with blood and writhing on the mat in agony and the match will continue. A boxer gets a little cut and they stop the bout.

Maybe in the old days a boxer was a match for a wrestler but not anymore. Boxers today are pampered babies who have too much money invested in them to risk being hurt. Wrestling is the only place left for a man.

MICHAEL MURPHY Pocatello, Idaho



One fan praises reporter Bill Apter for having so much guts. Bill has even been hit with Stan Stasiak's heart punch (above)! Earl Maynard (left) and Tony Rocco (right) are being praised for their campaign to rid wrestling of the rule breakers. "We intend to stick to our guns," both Maynard and Tony agree.

## **BOXERS ARE BETTER**

How can anybody even wonder who is tougher—a boxer or a wrestler? A boxer has it all over a wrestler in terms of all-out brawler.

1 say here and now that George Foreman or Muhammad Ali could beat any wrestler in the world in a street fight, including Ken Patera, any Graham you want, or Pedro Morales. Boxers are guys from the streets. Many wrestler come from the college ranks. How tough can you get in college?

I'll bet on a boxer any day!

DORIA BLAKE Macon, Georgia

## ACCOLADES FOR APTER

Bill Apter's confidential diary of his wrestling experiences was a pleasure to read. The story showed beautifully how exciting it is to be a wrestling reporter.

It takes guts and determination to get pictures and interviews with some of the animals that call themselves wrestler, and Apter has plenty of both. He's taken plenty of lumps to get us fans the stories we want to read

And we appreciate it, Bill, we really do. So keep doing your job. No matter how difficult the job, remember that your readers appreciate what you have to go through.

MARSHA GOLDBERG Brooklyn, N.Y.



## PRAISE FOR THE CRUSADERS

It's about time that clean wrestlers have decided they won't wrestle against dirty wrestlers. Tony Rocco and Earl Maynard are to be congratulated for trying to wipe out dirty wrestlers.

I've seen Maynard and Rocco wrestle and it's a pleasure to see two scientific, talented wrestlers demonstrate their prowess. I'd rather see one of their matches than 10 with dirty wrestlers.

Is there any petition we can sign
• (Continued on page 48)



ings you the forbidden

in this exclusive book!

## "THE DEADLIEST MAN ALIVE!"

Bringing to you these forbidden and secret fighting arts is the Supreme Grand Master of all the fighting arts — Count Danté who won the World overall Fighting Arts championship (Master & Expert Divisions) after defeating the top Judo, Boxing, Wrestling, Karate, Gung Fu, Aikido, etc. masters in 'Death Matches'. On Aug. 1, 1967 the World Federation of Fighting Arts crowned the Count — "The World's Deadliest Fighting Master."



## THIS BOOK CAN **SAVE YOUR LIFE**

The FORBIDDEN and SECRET training manual of the BLACK DRAGON FIGHTING SOCIETY has never before been available to anyone outside of the Society. Recent attempts for regular publication and public exposure have been rejected as the contents were considered HORRIFYINGLY DANGER-OUS and BRUTALLY VICIOUS.

Yes, this is the DEADLIEST and most TERRIFYING fighting art known to man — and WITHOUT EQUAL. Its MAIMING, MUTILATING, DISFIGURING, PARALYZING and CRIPPLING techniques are known by only a few people in the world. An expert at DIM MAK could easily kill many Judo, Karate, Aikido and Gung Fu experts at one time with only finger tip pressure using his murderous POISON HAND WEAPONS. Instructing you step by step thru each move in this manual is now other than COUNT DANTE — THE DEADLIEST MAN WHO EVER LIVED.

## BLACK DRAGON FIGHTING SOCIETY

BLACK DRAGON FIGHTING SOCIETY

The BLACK DRAGON FIGHTING SOCIETY is the WORLD'S DEADLIEST FIGHTING ORGANIZATION which has included in its closed membership the top fighting experts of the DREADED CHINESE TONG SOCIETY — the oriental, and more vicious counterpart of the Mafia. Its members, who are the world's top Masters in the oriental fistic and grappling arts, train in the most SECRET and FORBIDDEN aspects of the DEADLY Chinese fighting arts of GUNG FU, TAI CHICHUAN, CHUAN-FA, KEMPO, HSING YI, PA-KUA, SHAOLIN BOXING and DIM MAK.

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TIME TO honor the best! We are currently judging fan club bulletins to determine which club puts out the best one. The winning club's president will have his or her picture featured in this column with a short history of the club.

Now, if your club feels that one of its issues from January 1973 to the present is extraordinary and you wish that one to be considered for the competition, send it to us before June 1, 1974. Please write "Bulletin Entry" on the envelope so we can determine which ones are sent to us simply to keep us informed of clubs' activities.

So, send your best to Fan Club Editor. Box 58, Rockville Centre, New York 11571. We want to see your club's best as soon as you can get it in the mail!

An article in the Pedro Morales

dating of the rules. "The fault lies with the various alliances," the article claims. "It is up to them to revise the rules and require the referees to enforce them." The article, written by a law student and avid wrestling fan, is based on a three-month study conducted by THE WRESTLER and INSIDE WRESTLING.

The article was one of the many fine features in the bulletin, which is just one of the many reasons for joining the Pedro Morales Fan Club. If you're interested in joining, write the Pedro Morales Fan Club. 11 Quaker Road, Pennsville, N.J. 08070.

"Aloha", the Don Muraco Fan Club bulletin, recently introduced all its officers in short autobiographical articles. They were all enjoyable and informative. It's a great idea for other clubs. "Aloha" is full of news and picture offers. If you wish to join, Fan Club bulletin demands that write to the-International Don Muraco there be a complete revision and up- Fan Club, P.O. Box 22, Milwaukee,

The president of the Jack and Jerry Brisco fan club, Wayne Lebo, proudly stands between the wrestlers the club was all started for. Wayne's club keeps you up-to-date on all the Brisco's action.





Billy Robinson (above) is proud to have such a fine fan club run by Diane J. Carter of Wisconsin.

Wisc. 53201.

The Wrestling Roundup Fan Club Bulletin is full of pictures, columns, and results. If you wish to know more about it, write in care of Corey Meyer, 1335 Fargo, Chicago, Ill. 60626.

Mike and Kevin's "Sound-Off" column in the Billy Robinson Fan Club bulletin has proved to be a controversial but enjoyable addition to the excellent publication. Amid insults to wrestling greats and fans, there are a lot of valid but unpopular points made. You may not agree with the pair, but you won't be able to ignore them.

Those who wish to read this and the many other enjoyable features, not to mention receiving the many other benefits of the club, may write to The Billy Robinson Fan Club, Diane J. Carter, Pres., 725 State St., Union Grove, Wisc. 53182.

The new Geoff Portz Fan Club has been pleasing its many members and is growing every day. The bulletin is full of information and the jumbo print of Geoff is one of the best we've ever seen. If you want more information on the club, write Rosemary Lott, 34 Nemy Crescent, Winnipeg, R2Y OK5, Manitoba, Canada.

A lot has been happening to the Brisco brothers and their fan club is keeping fans right on top of it. Those who wish to keep up with the doings of the pair must become members of the Jack and Jerry Brisco Figure 4 Fan Club, Wayne Lebo, Pres., 1825 Daytonia Road, Miami Beach, Fla. 33141.

So until next month, keep up the great work. And remember to send in that best bulletin. Your club deserves the honor, doesn't it?

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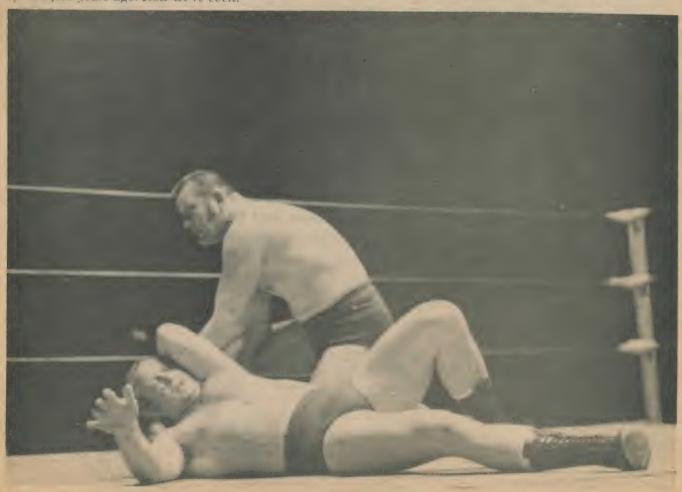
## KINISKI WHIPS DORY JR.



BUT IT'S FIVE YEARS TOO LATE

Above: Kiniski's got Dory locked in a by him five years ago. Now we're even.

Above: Kiniski's got Dory locked in a painful figure-four armlock. Funk won the N.W.A. title from Kiniski five years before this match and Gene could not get a victory over him while he had the title. Below: He punishes Dory more, working on the same arm. Gene beat Dory and claims "I was robbed of that title he him five years are. New works are also beat a long time in coming the same arm. Sene beat Dory and claims "I was robbed of that title he him five years are. New works are also beat a long time in coming the same arm.



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## ON THE MAT WORLD

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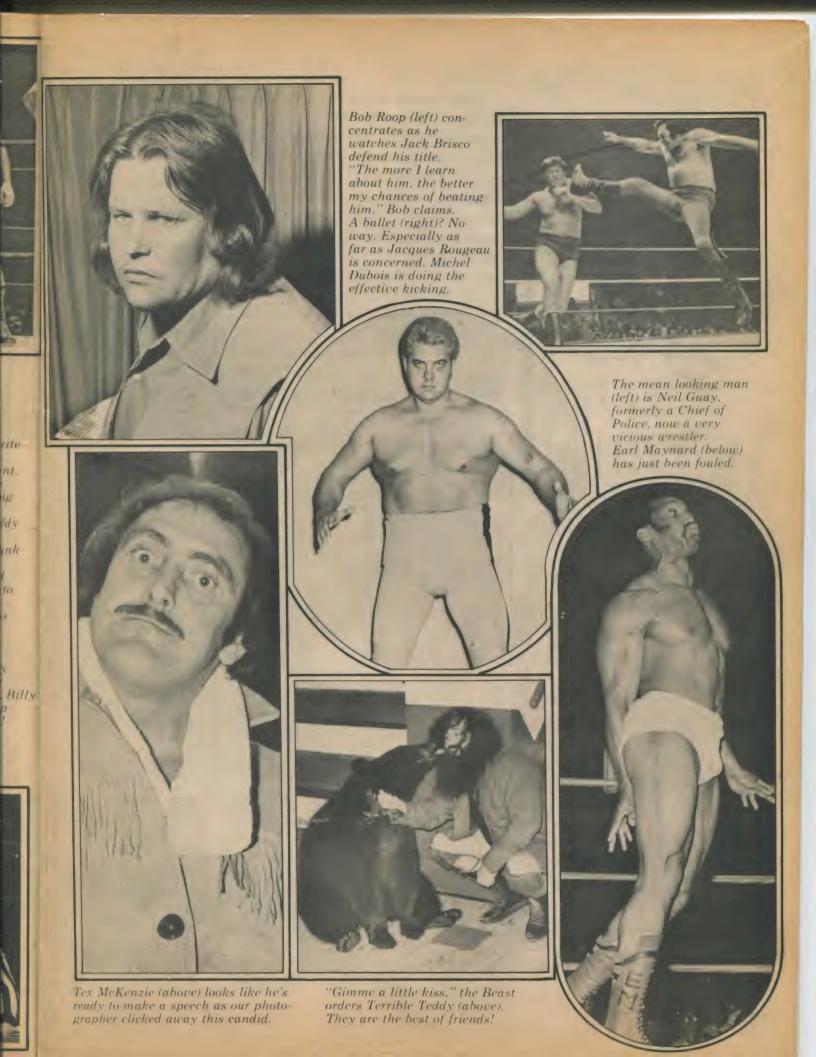


A toothache? No, Billy Red Cloud (above) has just been smashed in the face by Rene Goulet and he's too stunned to even get up!



One of the south's favorite wrestlers, Paul Jones (above) eyes his opponent. Paul, once hated by the entire south, is now a big hero in the eyes of the fans. His feud with Buddy Colt is still burnin' hot. Fred Blassie bites a chunk of flesh out of Tolos forehead (left). But Fred was penalized and had to leave town in this loser leave town match in Los Angeles, California. Hey, referee! Take a better look. Oh. it's too late and he's already counted Little Louie out (below). As you can see, Bill The Kid had a little help from behind - so to say!







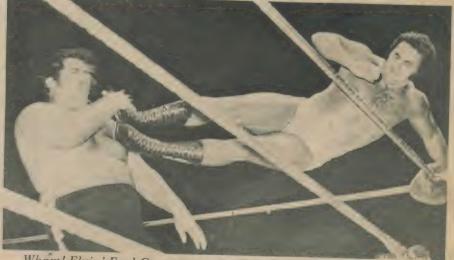
Look out below! Ed Carpentier (left) is executing a perfect backflip, getting out of the dangerous clutches of his opponent. Apollo (right) set a world record for a wrestler "in flight." He can go higher than anyone. Here's another feat that should set a record (below). It's Ray Rougeau flipping two opponents over with a flying headscissor!



# THE WRESTLERS WHO CAN FLY!

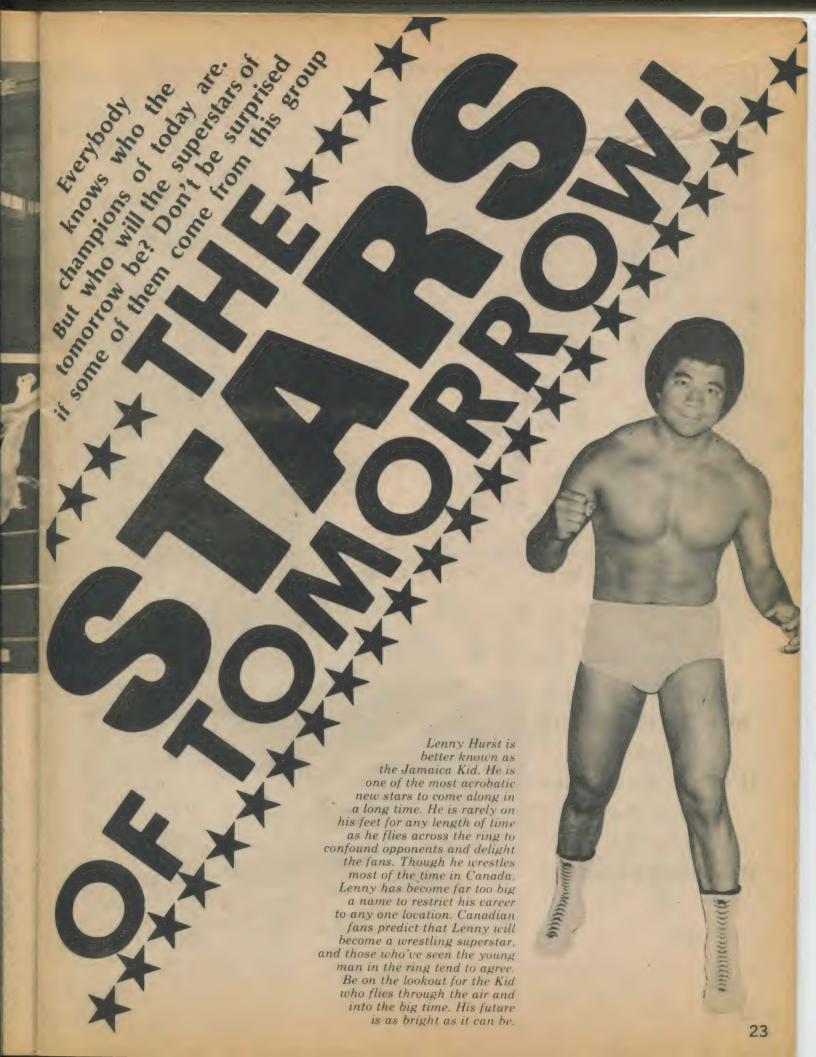


Look. Up in the sky. Is it a bird? A plane? No... it's the wrestlers who become airborne at a moment's notice!



Wham! Flyin' Fred Curry stuns Joe Nova with a sensational flying dropkick while perched partially on the corner turnbuckle. "The flying maneuvers help me win my matches," Flyin' Fred admits.

(Continued on page 50)











# TEST YOURSELF WITH THIS WORD GAME

## WORD LIST PUZZLE

Maria Laverne
Moondog Mayne
Pampero Firpo
Pat Patterson
Paul Jones
Ray Stevens
Rip Hawk
Victor Rivera
Tim Woods
Jim Valiant

Peter Maivia Bobby Shane Bob Ellis Bobo Brazil Buddy Colt Ivan Putski Joe Leduc Omar Atlas Ann Casey Dutch Savage

(Continued on page 56)

Somewhere in this puzzle are the names of 20 top wrestlers which are listed in alphabetical order.

The names in the puzzle read in a straight line. But they can read across from left to right, right to left, going up or down, diagonally down from left to right, diagonally up from left to right, diagonally down from right to left and diagonally up from right to left.

Not all the letters in the puzzle are parts of answers. Some letters are used for more than one name.

When you find the name, circle it. If you don't find the name, keep looking for it. We promise it's in there.

If you find all 20 within 30 minutes, you're doing very well. In the same time, 10 to 15 correct is good and you should be excellent by the next puzzle.

N J L E S 0 H A B P S E 0 R U R Е R A 0 W E A 0 R V E C X O N T E C M D 0 P A M T T EI N P E R N R V A A A G E LA K W 0 R S T E N U R 0 A A S R R H T T M 0 B 0 B E A N A C N M B 0 U A B B C L T T P E P E A N S E E H A E A D B 0 D M E T G S N E T R A A R E 0 D M T P E A S 0 R E ٧ M E S G B Y E T S H 0 A A Y P F M S Y 0 D S R E C A S P S 0 C H B 0 J A 0 S N H F E N E Z A Y 0 Y Z U R T A 0 C B B W A N U A 0 K A H E E N M E 0 14 C B S T 0 R E T 0 P J E E D C N N G U 0 U G P N R M B S D A C H A T E 0 L 1 C K 1 R E S P A M K U

## TOP STARS REVEAL



Pat Patterson (above) is angry at the fact that none of the world champions come to California.

## PAT PATTERSON

Nothing gets me angrier than the fact the promoters can't force wrestlers to come to California and meet me. I'm sitting here waiting for them but they won't come near me.

Where are you, Jack Brisco? I know where you're not. Your not here in San Francisco or Los Angeles. But that's okay, because neither are the two other champions, Verne Gagne and Bruno Sammartino. And I know why you're not here. Because then you'd have to wrestle me and there'd be the end of your championships.

Why can't promoters make these three come to California and meet me? The fans deserve to have the best champion there is and that's what I am—the best.

## RAY STEVENS

Whenever I remember that my best maneuver, the magnificent "Bombs Away," is banned in many states, I could explode in anger. It was an ugly case of a personal campaign to hurt me!

There should be nothing illegal about the maneuver. It is difficult but effective. I spent years perfecting it and now all that work is for nothing! I'd like to show the people who banned it how painful it can be!



Ray Stevens (above) has a big gripe. Several states have banned his "Bombs Away" flying kneedrop.

It seems the cowards and babies tablish have been able to outlaw "Bombs Away." I'll develop something else and use that until they ban it. But what about the fans? They are deprived of watching one of the most exciting meneuvers ever executed! If they know what's good for them, they'll write the arenas demanding I be allowed to use "Bombs Away." They owe it to themselves.

## **EDOUARD CARPENTIER**

The fans and the sport deserve to have one champion who has proved his superiority over every other wrestler. Three champions hurts the sport, no matter who they are.

Now there are three great wrestlers who would bring honor to the

sport if they were sole champion. It would be to everyone's advantage if they could organize some kind of elimination tournament to decide the single heavyweight wrestling champion of the world.

It is not asking too much for the major associations to meet for however long it takes and iron out the differences between them. They owe it to the fans and the wrestlers. When it comes to the dignity of wrestling, no problem is insurmountable.

## **TERRY FUNK**

PEEVES"

I can't believe that after all I've gone through, there are people who still refer to me as Dory Funk, Jr.'s brother. What do I have to do to establish my own identity with these people?



What's Terry Funk's pet peeve? "I. still hear people callin' me Dory Jr's kid brother," he explains.

any other accomplishment seem a match that they're clamoring for. small. Until I win the championship.

could just learn to wrestle those guys tle. who would help my career instead of guys who get me angry, I'd be in ANDRE THE GIANT really good shape. One of these days hello championship.

It's astounding how everybody con- written letters demanding a title shot nected with a former champion is have made me almost as happy as trapped in his shadow. All the power winning the title. Another peeve is in the concept of champion makes that the fans are being deprived of

The longer it takes for me to get I'll never become Terry Funk, period. a title shot, the angrier I'm going to And I'll never become champion get. And I plan to take it out on all until I can control my temper. If I the non-champions they let me wres-

I'm going to do it, too. Bye Bye fueds, size against me. Promoters hesitate It would be more effective and he to sign me against wrestlers who wouldn't have to exert himself.

## BOBO BRAZIL

Nothing gets me madder than foreign objects! Anvone who is incapable of using his strength to overcome an opponent deserves to lose. I consider a foreign object an admission of defeat and so should referees!

When some animal like The Sheik jabs a pencil into an opponent's forehead, he should be run out of the arena! There's no excuse for that kind of vicious, cruel action. Why My pet peeve is that they hold my doesn't he bring a rifle into the ring?

## Everybody has something that bugs him. Even the top stars in professional wrestling. Here, for the first time ever, wrestling's biggest names let YOU in on their "pet peeves"



It may sound repititious but Chief Jay Strongbow (above) still claims he is entitled to a title shot.

## **CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW**

Being deprived of a title shot has got to be my pet peeve. I've defeated so many guys who've had title shots that I've stopped counting. I should be given a chance to prove whether or not I'm capable of being W.W.W.F. champion.

However, the support that fans have given me is truly heartwarming. Fans that have cheered for me and

are smaller and lighter than I am. And how many wrestlers are my people like The Sheik are wasting size?

There are many wrestlers who I consider stiff competition because they are strong, coordinated, and clever. When you pit size against talent, talent will always win. I know other guys in the sport.

I think that not signing to wrestle happy about it! me is an insult to the other wresand stupid.

What's even more irritating is that their great talent by resorting to cheap

## VICKI WILLIAMS

Why aren't women's matches sup-I'm talented, but so are a lot of ported as vigorously as men's matches? I don't know, but I'm sure un-

I know from personal experience tlers, also. To think that someone that men tag team champions are supcould overpower them simply because ported more than women tag team he is taller and heavier is ridiculous champions. Joyce Grable and I are as talented as any men tag team



Andre The Giant (above) is burnt up because promoters are often hesitant to sign him against smaller men-champions included. "How many men are my size?" he asks. "I think this is unfair.

champions, but we don't get as much PAUL JONES support.

every card in every arena! Fans change my tactics, why don't some should be educated as to the many fans appreciate it? subtleties of girl wrestling. More women fans should support the matches rules were not my major concern. and be vocal about it. We need and I'm not trying to excuse my tactics, deserve the fans' support.



In a bid for women's lib, pretty Vicki Williams (above) wants more support of women's matches around the globe.



Paul Jones (above) has cleaned up his tactics and really hates to be called a rule breaker now.

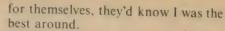
I get angry every time some fan Women's matches should be on calls me a dirty wrestler. If I can

I'll admit that for a few years the accepting apologies. but I was hungry and determined to make a name for myself. I realize now that it was the wrong way to do

However, I am now the most scientific wrestler I know. I'd rather lose than use a dirty tactic. I may lose my temper, but I haven't purposely broken a rule in years. I'm proud of that fact and expect the fans to-respect that.

However, there are always some clowns who insist that I'm still a dirty wrestler. I'd like to get them in a ring and prove I don't need dirty tactics to tie them into an agonized pretzel!

Cowboy Bob Ellis (right) wants the rules to become stricter. Bill Watts (below) says he's underrated. "A lot of bums are rated." he says.



So I can't get what's coming to me until the ratings make me number one where I belong. Then I'll go around

## COWBOY BOB ELLIS

Guvs who think the rules are to be ignored or broken are an insult to





## COWBOY BILL WATTS

One thing I can't stand is when other wrestlers who I'm much better than get rated over me. This is criminal.

I'm constantly being overlooked when it comes to the ratings. I don't know why but I have my suspicions. And when I get the goods on you guys, watch out!

What gets me even angrier are the dumb fans who believe those rotten ratings. I don't get the respect I deserve because those yo-yos can't see beyond the ratings. If they'd think

the sport to which I've devoted my life. They destroy what so many of us have struggled to achieve.

When I retire, I want to be remembered as the guy who helped run the dirty wrestlers out of the sport. Those of us who devote our lives to the development of scientific wrestling are insulted every time one of these animals steps into the ring.

Referees should be given more power to disqualify wrestlers who break the rules and a disqualification should mean a loss, including in championship matches.

There's is nothing that upsets me more than having to watch a dirty wrestler get away with his tactics. It's an insult to all those who believe in the sport.

wouldn't care if I came into the ring wearing a sack! They just want to wrestle. And that's all I want to do.

I've had it with all the glory-seeking mask snatchers!



Mil Mascaras (above) is sick of guys trying to rip off his mask. John Tolos (above right and wrestling Pak Song below) hates to be classified as a dirty wrestler. "I'm scientific," he claims.

## MIL MASCARAS

Guys who want nothing more than to tear the mask off my face get me angrier than anything else in the world!

The more famous I've become, the more other wrestlers think they can gain by ripping the mask off my face. I think it's cheap to try to gain some notoriety for doing something that would be so disturbing to me. They don't even wrestle to win, just to unmask me.

Japan now. The Japanese wrestlers wrestler is an insane lie spread by a dirty wrestler.

## JOHN TOLOS

- I've more than had it with those clowns who call themselves wrestlers and geeks who call themselves fans who have the stupidity to call me a sick morons. dirty wrestler.

Me? Dirty?? pathetic excuses for human beings dare to spread such ridiculous lies history of the sport been a more dirty. scientific (or more talented) wrestler





The trouble is, people confuse sci-How can those entific wrestling with bad wrestling. They see some boob like Victor Rivera and believe that nobody could be about me. There has never in the that bad. His opponents must wrestle

The American people have a right than John Tolos, the Golden Greek. to know whether or not I'm a dirty That's why I'm wrestling more in To then accuse me of being a dirty wrestler. Let me assure you, I'm not



# THE NIGHT 21 SNARLING WILDMEN GANGED UP ON ANDRE THE GIANT!



It's all out war as John Tolos tries to do the job on his own. But Andre retaliates shortly after by slugging the "Golden Greek." Tolos is a very rough customer." Andre said. "But I got the best of him."

Clunk! Andre's just knocked John Tolos and Black Gordman's heads together and he refuses to let them fall (above)! Andre becomes the middle of a sandwich (below) as he crushes Gordman, Goliath and Pat Patterson. Believe it or not, Victor Rivera's helping his enemies try to eliminate Andre!



HERE WAS NO doubt in 21 wrestlers' minds who was the man who had to be defeated if each was to have a chance to win the annual Los Angeles Battle Royal. The man to beat was Andre the Giant.

"You enter a battle royal," Victor Rivera explained before the event. "because there is a lot of money at stake. We're professionals and mentally we go over each opponent before the match. It was obvious that in this kind of match, Andre's size gave him a definite advantage.

"Being professionals, we all considered what could be done to remove Andre's advantage. We all had to concentrate on eliminating Andre before we could go any further. And I'm sure that Andre, being a pro-

fessional, understood that."

"Of course I understood that." Andre said without bitterness after the match. "Being the largest, it would be hardest for me to be thrown out of the ring, which is how a wrestler is eliminated from a battle royal. I was prepared for a united effort against me." Andre shook his head and added, "I just wasn't prepared for it being so successful."

How could anyone possibly defend against 21 professional wrestlers?

Andre smiled and answered, "The best you can. That's all you can do."

There are no existing rules against most of the wrestlers ganging up on one. No one could have predicted that any man could so dominate the match as Andre does. And Andre has yet to go to any rules committee and ask that he be protected. That's not the way Andre wrestles.

Of course, some of the wrestlers denied before and after the match that Andre was a primary target.

"Who cares about that overgrown clown?" John Tolos sneered angrily

Pat Patterson has the breath choked out of him, knocking him almost unconscious. When he started to turn blue, Andre dropped him and then went on to take on the other 20 men in the giant battle royal.



## Andre the Giant can handle himself in a crowd. But when 21 grapplers gang up on one man —well that's too much even if that one man is Andre the Giant! Exclusive Photos By Theo Ehret

after the match. "It's just that he's so big, nobody could avoid him. There he was, plodding around the ring, getting in everybody's way. I just wanted to get rid of him so I could wrestle. While he was in there, it was like a crowded subway car.

"It never occurred to me to gang up on him. I can take him alone. I can take two of him alone. The bigger they are, the harder they fall. And did you see Andre fall? I haven't enjoyed anything so much since Victor Rivera slipped on a banana peel and cracked the sidewalk."

Moondog Mayne pretends not to know who Andre the Giant is, though it was his brutal mulekick that was the beginning of the end for Andre.

"Andre was the big guy, huh? He was a big guy, yessiree. But he was no match for Moondog Mayne. I eat glass and live goldfish. Nothing scares me. After all, that big guy was smaller than King Kong, right? And I've challenged King Kong to wrestle me anytime he wants. And he can have Godzilla as his second. And you ex-



As Tolos holds Andre, Goliath slugs away. But it proved to be an unsuccessful series of events as Andre bopped Tolos with his behind, sending John flying, and then elbow smashed Goliath across the ring.





Now it's Tolos again behind Andre and Dr. Death trying to push him down (above). Again. No dice. Moondog Mayne gets a lift (left) onto the turnbuckles as Black Gordman gets nowhere trying to get Andre off of Moondog.

pect me to be worried about big guys like Andre? I'm Moondog Mayne!"

There were some wrestlers who were very worried about Andre. Some even tried to get their entry fee back when they discovered Andre was going to be one of the 22 wrestlers.

"I didn't see much point," one of those who wanted out said. "After all, in a match of this kind, brute strength and size counts for more than skill. Who can throw that giant out of a ring? It would take a crane, at least. I didn't see much point in continuing. There is no excuse for Andre not to win every battle royal in the world."

This wrestler didn't take into account that 21 men would do their best together to hurl Andre from the ring. Their best was good enough.

Even though the match began with a 21-man rush on Andre, it wasn't the Giant who was the first one out. Those who rushed at Andre first were the ones who were the first to go.

When they came running toward him, Andre sidestepped and used their own momentum to hurl Dr.



Luckily for Moondog Mayne, Andre just missed with an elbow smash (left). A pretty model styles Andre's hair (below) before the big battle.



Death and Jim St. Clair over the ropes. When the other wrestlers saw the damage being done, they stopped and became more cautious.

Brawl tactics weren't going to work. Andre is far too cunning for A week before the that. It was going to take teamwork big battle royal, and skill. And finding men willing Andre ventured to to team with each other wasn't easy.

For starters, there was John Tolos "check out the and Victor Rivera. These two men competition," as are in the middle of what may prove he said. "It was to be the bloodiest, most violent feud quite impressive in wrestling history. For them not to However, he did attack each other while entering the not have too hard ring is an accomplishment.

Then there was Pat Patterson, who on two men at has managed to anger almost every once.(right). wrestlers in that battle royal. Seeing If you don't Pat in a ring and not going after believe us. him took great control for many of just ask the the men.

The most contested belt in the team who accepted country is the Americas title which is held by John Tolos, who recently took it back from Pak Song. It is close as to who wants to pulverize John Tolos more, Victor Rivera or Pak Song. And Tolos is always ready

(Continued on page 58)

California to of a time taking Vigilantes, the. Andre's challenge.



## COWBOY BILL WATTS WRESTLING'S MOST MISUNDERSTOOD STAR



Cowboy Bill Watts this week? Bill is a personable guy with a quick sense of humor but even a quicker temper. And that temper has made wrestling.

It's his temper that confuses fans. When he explodes, the rules and regu- member. As a kid, I would make lations fly out the window. And that's friends until somebody did something why so many wrestling fans consider I didn't like. Then I'd explode. Some him a dirty wrestler. And which is kid would wind up with a bloody nose

HAT DO THE fans think of why he has never gotten the praise and I'd have a bad reputation. When he deserves.

"It's been that way all my life." Bill moans, "and it doesn't look like it's gonna get any better. It's some- "In college it was the same way. him the most misunderstood man in thing I've had to live with but can't get used to.

"It began as long ago as I can re-

people got to know me, they accepted my temper as part of me and forgave it. But it took a lot of forgiving.

My friends on the football team would sense when I was about to go havwire and make themselves scarce. They'd make excuses for me all the time when I'd do something that upset people. It got to be a hassle for them and for me. But there was nothing

# Hero or villain? Scientific wrestler or no-holds-barred tough guy? Ask 10 different people and you'll get 10 different opinions



Above: Cowboy Bill Watts, after losing his short temper, tries to tear off Mr. Wrestling's mask as he slams a punch into the masked wrestler's face. Below: Mr. Wrestling punches Bill and the match becomes a brawl. Right: Bill traps an opponent in a reverse shoulder vise, demonstrating Bill's talent when he can control his temper.



I could do about it.

"When I graduated from college, I joined the Houston Oilers. I didn't like pro football because I had to follow so many orders and they wouldn't tolerate a guy who constantly flew off the handle. I think that's why they didn't try all that hard to stop me when I told them I was leaving."

Others believe the Oilers tried very hard to make Bill stay, but he had discovered a spot where he could lose his temper without being kicked out of the game. That sport was wrestling.

(Continued on page 52)

# YES!



**Exclusive Photos By Steve Goldstein** 

Danny Hodge (left) admits that he meant to tear Tokyo Joe in half. Hodge tries to accomplish the deed by locking his legs around one of Joe's legs and locking his arms around the other leg and pulling as hard as possible (above). Danny claims he had enough of Joe.

TLL ADMIT IT! I'm not ashamed of it. I tried to do it and if I got the chance I'd try to do it again. It's true. I wanted to tear Tokyo Joe apart! And if it wasn't for referee interference I probably would have succeeded!

You know how it is. Everybody's been in the type of situation I was in. You know. It's the type of thing where you can put up with so much. You can take so much or accept so much, and then you get to the point where you've had it. Where you just can't take any more. So you explode. You take decisive action. Maybe you even turn into an animal. But whatever it is, it's something you can't help. Because you've reached the point of no return.

That's the point I reached. The

# DANNY HODGE DID TRY TO SPLIT TOKYO JOE IN HALF



It's unusual for a wrestler to flat out admit that he tried to purposely maim another grappler. But Danny Hodge makes no bones about it. He wanted to split Tokyo Joe in half! and if he's sorry it's only because he didn't succeed!

Tokyo Joe pleads with referee to break the hold and stop his agony (left and below).

point of no return. The point where I was no longer responsible for my actions. The point where I had to do what I had to do. Even if it meant getting disqualified. Even if it meant getting thrown out by the referee. Even if it meant being accused of being a vicious animal by the fans.

How much would you take? I mean how much would you tolerate when you've been putting up with something, trying to put up with it for days, weeks, even months—when you just can't stand it any longer?

You probably know me as a clean wrestler, a good wrestler. You know I view wrestling as a profession and I wrestle professionally.

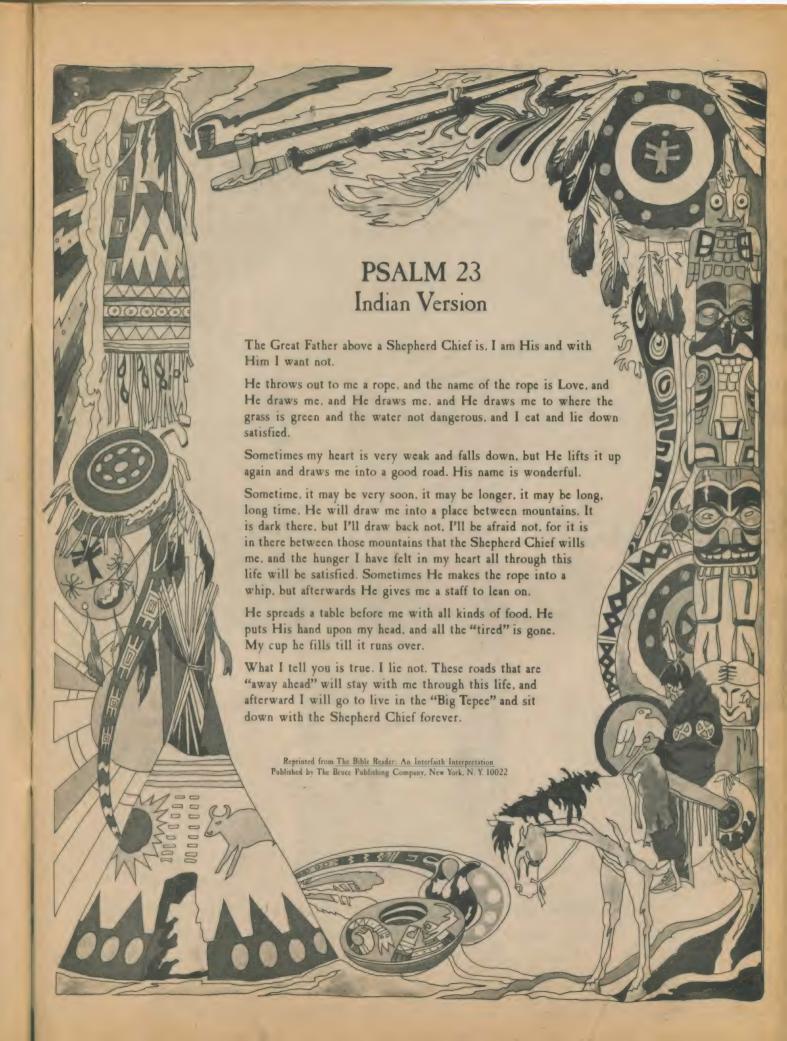
I don't care who my opponents are, or what they are. They can be black,

(Continued on page 54)



Most people are familiar with the 23rd psalm. But did you know there is an Indian version of it? And that's the version that means so much to Chief Jay Strongbow







# EXPOSING THE "MYTH" OF MARIA LAVERNE

ARIA LAVERNE IS one of the dirtiest girl wrestlers in the sport. If she ever tried winning a match scientifically instead of by rotten tactics, she would have been eliminated from wrestling years ago!"

Those are the words of Sandy Parker, a wrestler who recently battled Laverne and claims "The Maria Laverne Myth" was shattered for her. "Now I want to shatter that myth for everyone else who's been taken in by it," says Sandy.

"I heard rumors every now and



then about Maria using foul tactics", continued Sandy. "But I never seriously believed them, because I frankly have to admit I thought she was one damned good wrestler. But it takes getting into the ring with her to see how she really works, because this girl is an expert at using devious techniques that the fans and the referee don't catch her at."

Couldn't this just be another case of sour grapes? Could it be she was just using some excuse for losing to Laverne after only eight minutes and nine seconds of a match?

"I'm sick and tired of reading about what a goodygoody Maria Laverne is supposed to be," raged Sandy Parker. "It's about time someone told the world what she's really like" Exclusive Photos By Bill Beach Though Maria Laverne seems to be taking her lumps rather than use illegal tactics (opposite page and below), Sandy Parker claims Maria is one of the dirtiest wrestlers in the world. "She is an expert at using devious techniques," Sandy proclaims indignantly. Kay Noble is another woman wrestler who has criticized Maria.



"Sour grapes?." answered Sandy.
"Not in the least bit. You know, Laverne has one helluva good reputation in this sport. And losing to her is no great disgrace. And everybody would have to admit I put up a darned good fight and made that win a hard fought one.

"But the reason I'm making such a big fuss now is that I think it's about time the world, along with the referees and the officials, woke up to the disgraceful conduct of Maria Laverne. She is literally getting away with murder, and I am one girl, who's sick and tired of it!"

During the Laverne-Parker battle. Maria no sooner came out of her corner than she tried to pin her opponent. But it didn't work. Sandy was much too tough for her.

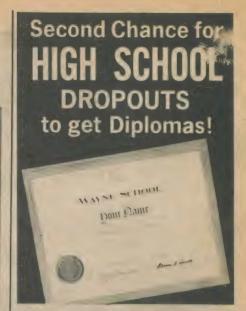
Before long Parker had a headlock

on Laverne that got her to plead with the referee for mercy. But directly after Maria got slammed to the canvas, it seemed to give her the drive she needed for Laverne to launch an assault on Sandy and set her up for the pin.

"But it's what went on in between that's important," remarked Sandy. "Like the times I had to warn the referee that Maria was heading for me with clenched fists. There must be pictures to show that. And more important the times she used those clenched fists on me.

"That girl really knows how to punch when the referee isn't looking. She's so devious, it's incredible. And she kicks like that's the only thing she has going for her. When you get the wind kicked out of you, you just can't

(Continued on page 62)



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#### HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING, BABY

(Continued from Page 10)



Dusty Rhodes (above) Pearl Harbored Jack Brisco, knocking him silly and now claims the world title. Buddy Colt (right) refuses to get into the ring with Paul Jones even though Jones is offering Buddy a new Cadillac if he can whip him! Don Leo Jonathan (below) has won Canada's Gran Prix championship.





By the way, is W.W.W.F. manager Lou Albano planning to get back into his trunks again? Why do we ask? Well, Lou's former tag team partner, Tony Altamore is wrestling in the same area. Together, several years ago, Lou and Tony formed a team called "The Sicilians" and destroyed most competition.

"We don't plan to team up," Albano said. "We are content to remain great individual stars."

Dusty Rhodes is claiming the N.W.A. world title!

"I beat Jack Brisco," Rhodes explained. "How come I don't have the belt?"

"He's not telling the whole story," Brisco stressed. "You see, I was wrestling Dick Slater when Rhodes came into the ring and sneak attacked me. Then Rhodes pounded me and pressed me while Slater made like he was the referee and counted me out. It's ridiculous. Rhodes isn't the champion."

Paul Jones wants to get Buddy Colt real bad. But Colt keeps comin' on with lines like, "I've got other committments," or "I'm too tied up." So for an incentive, Jones has gone so far as to offer his Cadillac to Colt just to get him in the ring with him. But Colt's still not biting.

Beside wrestling regularly in W.W.W.F. areas, big Don Leo Jonathan is currently in charge of the Gran Prix heavyweight title,

"I'm really remarkable," Jonathan boasted. "Soon I'll be holding two titles at once, the Gran Prix and W.W.W.F. belts."

Giant Olympic star now turned pro, Chris Taylor, was the subject of a national television show recently.

"Wrestling's a good life," Taylor admitted. "I'm glad I turned pro." Chris is currently chasing the A.W.A. title, held by Verne Gagne.

Waldo Von Erich is back in the United States after a world tour. "My main goal is the National Wrestling Federation title," he claimed. "I wiped out all so-called competition in Europe and Japan. There is no competition good enough for me anywhere in the world. I am the greatest wrestler there ever was."

Crusher's got his hands full. He's made a bet and hopefully will come out on the winning end.

"I bet that if I can't beat Ray Stevens within 15 minutes, I'll forfeit my entire night's purse," Crusher explained.

"Poor guy," Stevens cracked. "I hate to see anyone lose a good night's pay. There is no way he'll do it. No way."

same area. Together, several years ago, Lou and Tony formed a team the east, is amazing fans with his called "The Sicilians" and destroyed flying maneuvers.

"I hope one day to win the W.W.W.F. title like my friend Pedro Morales did," Jose admits. "It's my dream." Besides appearing in single matches, Jose likes to team with Manny Soto.



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Pampero Firpo shave his head? "You must be crazy," he says. "I will lose my strength if I do that."

"He's a great partner," Manny said.
"Jose's a very capable wrestler and should really make it big one day. He deserves it."

This issue's "Question Of The Month" was submitted by Ross Dalper. Ross wanted us to ask a group of wrestlers if they'd go so far as to shave their heads bald in a loser loses his hair match. Here's the revealing answers our nationwide staff of correspondents received:

PAMPERO FIRPO: "Me. shave my hair? Whattsa matta with you. I am like Samson. Cut my hair and my strength be gone. Ohhhhh Noooo. Very bad."

JIM VALIANT: "Cut my gorgeous locks? You must be nuts. I'd never do that. My fans would kill me if I cut my hair."

JERRY BRISCO: "If I signed for that kind of match and lost, yes, I'd obey the rules and become a baldie."

FRED BLASSIE: "Yeah, I'd do it. But I never lose so really I can't answer your question with honesty."

FABULOUS MOOLAH: "You've got to be kidding. That's the wrong question to ask me!"

And that's what's happening, baby!

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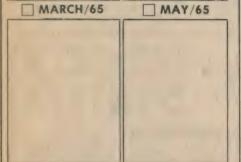
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#### SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 12)



Are Tony Rocco and Earl Maynard cowards hiding behind the rule book? That's what one fan charges. But most of the letters we have been receiving are giving full support for their cause.

or campaign to join? I think we should show that many fans are behind Tony and Earl."

> RHONDA STALLINGS Los Angeles, Calif.

#### ARE THEY COWARDS?

I think Tony Rocco and Earl Maynard are afraid of so-called dirty

sade to wipe out dirty wrestlers. I think they're just scared!

John Tolos is right when he says that those two are afraid to wrestle him and people like him: I think Tolos is the greatest and would go anywhere to see him wrestle. Who are Rocco and Maynard to force him out of the sport?

I think it's disgusting that Rocco wrestlers. They say they're on a cru- and Maynard hide their cowardice be-



"Jack Brisco's dreams of the future were really interesting," according to Ingrid Kessler. She also liked Verne Gagne's future aspirations. Ingrid's asked for more features like this one and you can rest assured that more are on the way!

hind the cloak of scientific wrestling. If anyone should be run out of wrestling, they should

> JANN RANDY San Francisco, Calif.

#### DELIGHTED WITH DREAMS

I thought the article wherein the top wrestlers told of their dreams for the future was great. I hope some of their dreams come true and some of them don't.

I especially liked Jack Brisco and Verne Gagne. Jack is a humble champion who lets his wrestling do the talking. Verne, whose hopes are mostly for his very talented young son, must be a very wonderful father and man

How about doing these small interviews all year long with many different top wrestlers? I'd love it!

> INGRID KESSLER Bath, Maine



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FLYI (Continued from Page 22)



High flying Ray Rougeau (left) is about to come trashing down on The Spiderman who's definitely in trouble! The dynamic Mil Mascaras (below left) flies "with the greatest of ease" as the old saying goes. Mil's flying tactics totally stun his opponents. An underrated flyer, agile Dory Dixon flies onto Ernie Ladd (below, right). Dory has one of the best dropkicks in the business.









Throughout his entire career, Verne Gagne (above, dropkicking Boris Volkoff) has maintained one of the finest flying dropkicks ever seen. When you talk about dropkicks, you can't leave out the very popular Victor Rivera (below, dropkicking a masked Russian).





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#### COWBOY BILL WAT

(Continued from Page 39)



Above: Early in his match with Mr. Wrestling, Bill is hurled into the turnbuckle. Below right: The look on Bill's face when he loses his temper, a look that's all too common and is hurting his career. Below left: Bill traps an opponent in a headlock. His arms are like two vises. He doesn't need illegal tactics to be a great wrestler.



to the heights of hero almost from the now. "Because I couldn't apologize



some, talented, and had a knack for making friends. He had an even greater knack for losing them.

During matches where he lost his temper, and in the beginning there were many of them, fans would be shocked at Watts' angry attacks on opponents. For no apparent reason an opponent would be battered and bloody. Bill would feel badly about it but would also feel badly about the crowd's angry reaction.

"I'm afraid I got used to people The fans were prepared to raise Bill making excuses for me," Bill realizes moment they saw him. He was hand- to all the fans individually, they walk-

ed away without forgiving me. It was the first time I had been in a situation where my actions were apparent to so many. They were only interested in what I did in the ring, which made them mad. I don't blame them now. But I sure did then."

Bill would use his opponents to get to the fans. He would brutally torture those he had already beaten and enjoy humiliating those already in agony, Whenever he was beaten, fans would cheer joyously. It was an all-out war between Watts and the fans.

"I just couldn't stand being hated. though," Bill remembers unhappily. "I dont know how guys like The Sheik and Stan Stasiak can stand it. So I tried to get my temper in check and return to scientific wrestling.

"Anyway, being dirty was like cutting off my nose to spite my face. I didn't like doing it, there's no challenge to it. I didn't like myself for doing it."

So there was a new Bill Watts, though many of the fans refused to accept it. At those times the boos would get to Bill and it would be like old times. Then those who believed he had turned over a new leaf would feel betraved. And those who believed he was a cruel animal would feel cor-

But there were enough times when Bill managed to control his temper that confused even those who hated him the most. It went back and forth that way for years, through championships and defeats. When you spoke to a wrestling fan about Bill Watts. he would shrug his shoulders in hopeless confusion.

"I think that hurt me," Bill says sadly. "Fans didn't know what to think of me. Then I began to realize that letting myself get suckered by the fans or my temper is very unprofessional. I promised not to let it happen again.

"I love wrestling and want to be a credit to it. But to be a professional, you have to be able to be in total control of yourself at all times. And I had to overcome my temper to be in total control."

So far, Watts has been partially successful. Lately, he has still suffered from his temper and the fans have not exactly hopped on the Cowboy Bill Watts bandwagon.

An example of his failure to control his temper came during a recent match against Mr. Wrestling. He be-



Bill traps Mr. Wrestling in the excruciatingly painful but legal western neckbreaker (above), one of many difficult holds Bill can execute with ease. Unfortunately, the fans sometimes ignore his great talent and only remember the times he uses dirty tactics.

gan the match being efficiently and ring and then resumed his scientific effectively scientific. Then Mr. Wrestling trapped him in a sleeper hold. It was beautifully executed and brought the fans to their feet, cheer-

un.

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Nar

Watts escaped but remembered the cheers as the crowd roared its approval over a hold that was placing him in agony. Filled with rage, Watts lashed out at Mr. Wrestling. He repeatedly smashed his fists into Mr. Wrestling's face and chest. It looked like a heavyweight boxing match without the gloves.

wrestling. It was a great exhibition, but too late for the fans who had witnessed it.

"I blew it again," Bill said after the match, after apologizing to Mr. Wrestling for losing his temper. "This is ridiculous. Maybe I'd better accept my fate as an irredeemable hothead.'

The next day Bill was more optimistic. Talk with friends and a good night's sleep had calmed him down.

"I couldn't expect to do it overnight," Bill said logically. "But little by little, I'm getting there. Just wait. Bill caught himself but it was too In time, I'll be the most popular late. He walked angrily around the wrestler in the world. Just wait!"



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#### DANNY HODGE

(Continued from Page 41)



Danny Hodge claims that Tokyo Joe's ritual before the match (above, right, and below) is hypocritical because of the dirty tactics used by Joe in the match. It's the hypocrisy that angers Danny so greatly.



brown, blue, purple or yellow. They can believe whatever religion they want to believe. That's their business.

But when somebody turns out to be a hypocrite, saying one thing and doing another - that can get me an- Joe reaches into his trunks and pulls gry.. Damned angry!

I've wrestled Tokyo Joe before. I've my eyes!



seen him come into the ring with his ceremonial garb, the picture of dignity, a man who is obviously basically religious.

I've seen him each time remove the ceremonial garb and bend over and into a crouch and pray for a successful match. Obviously some of the fans do not appreciate him at this time or anytime during the match either.

But I try to have respect, since after all a man has the right to worship as he pleases. Except now, I'm starting to lose any respect for ANY-THING that Tokyo Joe does.

How can a man who acts so religious show no regard for right and wrong? How can a man who performs a Japanese prayer before he wrestles, use every dirty tactic in the book? I've just gotten so digusted with the man. I just won't take any more of this!

Not when "religious, pious" Tokyo out a bag of salt that he rubs into



Not when Joe punches, scratches, claws and kicks and does anything else illegal he can get away with when the referee isn't looking.

And especially not when salt isn't enough for the Japanese madman. Especially not when he pulls out fiendish Oriental devices and uses them to bruise and batter me!



Tokyo Joe finishes his ritual prayer (below left) and then smashes a karate kick into the stomach of Danny Hodge (right). Danny loses his temper after the kick and responds with a kick of his own (above) and then tries to break the left arm of a sorry Tokyo Joe (below).



I have had it with this man! I have had it up to here. That's why, during our most recent match, once I recovered from his kicking and illegal punching I stormed off the ropes and kicked him to his knees. That's why when I put him into a tough hammerlock I wouldn't let up until the referee forced me too. He said I was just about breaking the poor guy's arm.

That's why I punched him in the head. But most of all that's why I put him in my most fiendish hold ever. While down on the floor I clamped my legs into his sides while also pinning his legs to the mat.

He was screaming from the pain now since my legs were almost crushing his. But he was screaming more



from the anguish that resulted as I shifted my position and his legs were being spread almost to the point of tearing the ligaments.

I shifted my position once more and Joe was being torn apart slowly. I knew it and I was glad about it. Joe was protesting loudly. He raised his arms in a pleading motion and the referee approached and broke the hold. If he hadn't I don't doubt I would have torn him apart.

So I've admitted it. And I'm not sorry. I tried to tear him apart and I meant every bit of that hold. I just couldn't help it. I have had enough. I have had enough of his double-dealing tactics. I have had it. Haven't you ever been in that situation where you just can't take it anymore? Think about it. Haven't you?

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#### INDIAN PRAYER

(Continued from Page 42)



The Chief often meditates at home when he's fixing his headdress or just sitting and relaxing. "Meditation is good for the soul," he says. "It helps relax you. That's how I unwind after a tough match," Jay adds. "I just sit back and think about my heritage."

in the match because I'm sure he's already decided who will win. I simply thank him for giving me the opportunity to wrestle."

The Chief attributes his strong religious beliefs to the teachings of a wise old Indian who lived on the Chief's reservation in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. The Chief was only a boy when the bent, gnarled gentleman took him aside.

"Jay," said the old man, "every person on this big reservation has duties and obligations to the reservation. Some farm, some build, others organize. But the most important thing a man can do is to pray to the Lord for guidance and thanks.

"If one man does not pray, the Lord will punish him. And if this one man is punished, we are all punished because we have to work harder to make up for the unworthy one. So remember, you owe it to

your people and yourself to pray everyday.

"And if the Lord should smile upon you, remember who has brought you this good fortune. Thank Him for this bounty. He can give and he can take away."

A few years later, Jay was attending a reservation Sunday School when he read Psalm 23, the Indian version. It said everything he wanted to say. He feverishly copied the psalm and brought it home.

To this day, he carries a copy of the prayer with him wherever he goes. He has the psalm memorized, but he gives copies to friends. Worn copies of the psalm are in the possession of many wrestlers all around the country.

Chief Jay Strongbow believes, "The Great Father above a Shepherd Chief is, I am His and with Him I want not."



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### **ANDRE THE GIANT!**

(Continued from Page 37)

to let them try.

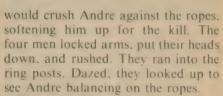
These were just some of the feuds that were temporarily ignored that evening. And there were moments when enemies took advantage of a situation to take some hard shots at each other. And when the opportunity presented itself, they took an Andrebattered opponent and hurled him over the ring.

The one thing Andre had in his favor was that these men had not learned together. For the same reason that all-star teams are rarely as good as regular teams, these men didn't know how to work fogether. Instead of an efficient machine, they were individual men who occasionally got in each other's way.

At one point, Pat Patterson, Black Gordman, Goliath, and Victor Rivera tried an assault on Andre. The four tried to make a flying wedge that



Victor Rivera's about to be whammed into the opposite side of the ring (above) courtesy of Andre. Look out Mr. Vigilante (left)! That punch will flatten you—for good!

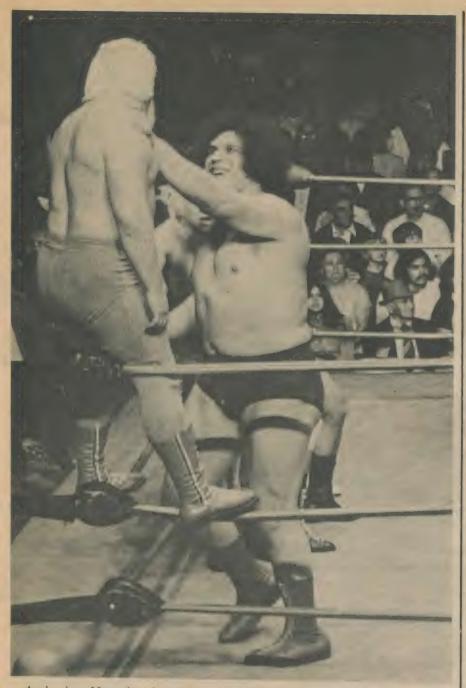


One quick jump and Andre was behind them. He grabbed the ropes and used his tremendous body to crush the weakened men against the ropes. The four squeezed men grimaced in agony. Finally, they managed to break the hold. But they paid for their escape. Pat Patterson and Goliath were quickly thrown over the ropes by men who took advantage of their pain.

But it couldn't last forever. The strain was getting to Andre. After all, at one time or another he had been battered by one or combinations of all the wrestlers in the ring. Andre's stamina and skill were staggering, but they couldn't last forever.

Five of the best wrestlers in the ring, Rivera, Gordman, Raul Mata, Tolos, and Mayne grouped against the Giant. Rivera and Mata started by simultaneously slamming into Andre, stunning him.





Andre has Moondog dangling on the turnbuckle-again-and the frustrated Mayne can't find a way to cope with the Giant. However, it was Mayne who was most instrumental in eliminating Andre later.

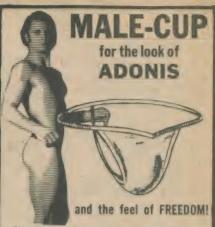
"Mayne," Tolos screamed, "get up on the ropes!"

Moondog did as he was told. the corner. As he turned around, Moondog lashed a powerful mulekick into Andre's chest. Andre was shoved into the corner. As he turned around, Moondog lashed a powerful mulekick into Andre's chest. Andre's huge eyes bulged and his desperate gasps could be heard around the arena. He could barely breathe and black spots appeared before his eyes. It looked like he would pass out.

But somehow he managed to re-The battered Andre was shoved into main standing. His huge body stumbled around the ring, trying to recover. But Tolos, Mayne, and Gordman weren't about to let him. The three grabbed Andre and threw him over the ropes!

Disgusted he walked back under his own steam as the fans thunderously applauded.

Back in the dressing room, Andre (Continued on page 60)



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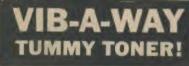
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### ANDRE THE GIANTI (Continued from Page 59)



The Vigilantes figure its easy to get Andre off his feet by double teaming him. Man, are they wrong! Andre threw them off with sheer ease. "He's the strongest guy in the world," they both admit.

talked about what the match would mean to him in the future.

"If it becomes a common practice to gang up on me, I don't know how much longer I can continue to be in battle royals. I can't afford to pay the few hundred dollars entrance fee each time just to have a lot of guys batter me. I can't defeat 21 guys, And I'm not going all over the country donating money to someone else's winnings.

When Victor Rivera returned to the dressing room, he walked up to Andre and extended his hand. Andre shook it warmly.

"You were astonishing tonight," Victor told him. "I can think of eight guys offhand who you either finished or weakened so that they were easily finished. You're truly a great wrestler and sportsman. I wanted to tell you that."

Andre laughed, then thanked Victor for the kind words. He also congratulated Victor on being the one who threw John Tolos out of the ring. This time, Victor smiled.

Andre intends to continue to participate in battle royals, at least for the present. But how long can anyone compete against a ring full of wrestlers?

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#### MYTH (Continued from Page 45)



Maria Laverne is probably the most respected girl wrestler in the entire sport, yet two of her colleagues have accused her of being the most devious and dirty athlete they have ever wrestled against. Where does the truth lie? Could it be possible for any wrestler to fool the public this long? Can Maria keep up the facade?





wrestle well, believe me!"

Was Sandy just exaggerating, or is Layerne really that type of wrestler?

"The trouble with most people, and that includes the wrestling fans and the magazine correspondents, is they have got this great, big, beautiful image of Maria Laverne that they can't shake. It's part of the whole image the Laverne family gives off. A family that lives by professional wrestling. But I'm telling you, forget about that whole viewpoint. Because Maria LaVerne, despite her background and her image, is one of the most devious, deceitful and sneaky wrestlers ever."

And how does Maria herself feel (Continued on page 64)



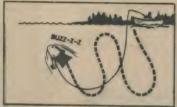


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### MYTH (Continued from Page 62)



Sandy Parker becomes the victim of Maria Laverne's monkey flip (above) and is sent crashing to the mat. Later on in the match, Sandy asks the referee to watch her (below).



about all these charges by Sandy Parker?

"It really shocks me," Maria replied with a slight trace of a Texas accent. "I didn't think Sandy was the type of person to distort things and accuse people like that. I'm not going to say Miss Parker is a poor wrestler. I don't try to destroy people's reputations!

"I have not seen Miss Parker wrestle too many times before. And I can't conclude anything definite about her abilities. But I should point out that during the match in question she happened to be the one to plant a list into my face early in the match. She was the one to try to tie me up in the ropes. She was the one to do a lot of kicking.

"Maybe if I kicked or punched, and forgot myself, it had something to do with replying to Sandy's tactics. After all, you must fight fire with fire."

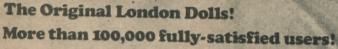
And so we have Sandy, who claims Miss Laverne is a sneaky, dirty wrestler, and Maria claiming Sandy was the one to use questionable tactics first.

Who is really right? It's difficult to say. Maybe you know the answer

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